

YOR920000324US1  
Amendment dated 01/17/2006

09/605,709

00280643aa  
Reply to Office Action mailed 12/19/2005

The following is a complete listing of all claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

**Listing of claims:**

1           1. (canceled)

1           2. (currently amended) ~~The~~ An automated method for setting up a natural  
2           language interface in a Web site ~~recited in claim 1~~ comprising the steps of:  
3                     defining a hierarchy of topics into which individual documents or Web  
4                     pages can be classified;  
5                     generating a keyword index for those documents; and  
6                     for each topic in the hierarchy, associating a set of *n*-grams to a topic  
7                     in the topic hierarchy, which set of *n*-grams is distinctive to that topic and  
8                     wherein the *n*-grams allow gaps between words of the *n*-grams,  
9                     wherein the step of generating a keyword index comprises the step of  
10           extracting ~~sparse~~ said *n*-grams of keywords for each group of pages in the  
11           topic hierarchy.

1           3. (canceled)

1           4. (canceled)

1           5. (currently amended) ~~The~~ An automated method for setting up a natural  
2           language interface in a Web site ~~recited in claim 4~~ comprising the steps of:  
3                     automatically inducing a topic hierarchy by examining a structure of  
4                     the Web site;

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5                   creating n-grams from pages in the Web site that are associated with a  
6                   topic in the topic hierarchy wherein the *n*-grams allow gaps between words of  
7                   the *n*-grams; and  
8                   creating rules from the n-grams, wherein each topic has associated  
9                   rules that are used to decide if a new input document or query references the  
10                  topic,  
11                  wherein the step of creating rules is performed automatically and  
12                  further comprising the optional step of manually editing the rules.

1                  6. (currently amended) ~~The~~ An automated method for setting up a natural  
2                  language interface in a Web site ~~recited in claim 1~~ comprising the steps of:  
3                   defining a hierarchy of topics into which individual documents or Web  
4                   pages can be classified;  
5                   generating a keyword index for those documents; and  
6                   for each topic in the hierarchy, associating a set of *n*-grams to a topic  
7                   in the topic hierarchy, which set of *n*-grams is distinctive to that topic and  
8                   wherein the *n*-grams allow gaps between words of the *n*-grams,  
9                  further comprising the step of converting the set of n-grams to  
10                  classification rules.